

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00574 101244Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 FEA-01
ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02
DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02
SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PA-01 PRS-01 /137 W
-----110737Z 113966 /21

R 101225Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2582
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMCONSUL DHAHRAIN
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, OPEC, QA
SUBJECT: QATARI OIL MINISTER SPOUTS AGAIN

REF: DOHA 0561
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1. QATARI OIL MINISTER AND CURRENT OPEC PRESIDENT SHAYKH ABDUL AZIZ BIN KHALIFA AL THANI, WHO MUST BE GOING FOR THE RECORD OF NUMBER OF PRESS INTERVIEWS GIVEN, HAS GUSHED HIS LATEST TO BEIRUT DAILY "AL NAHAR." EXCERPTS APPEARED IN QATAR NEWS AGENCY BULLETIN OF MAY 10.

2. ACCORDING ABDUL AZIZ, "THE COMING FEW DAYS WILL BEAR A SURPRISE FOR ALL WHO ARE INTERESTED IN OIL AFFAIRS WHETHER PRODUCERS OR CONSUMERS, AND IT WOULD BE A PLEASANT SURPRISE."

3. OTHER POINTS MADE BY ABDUL AZIZ INCLUDED: (A) UAE HAD "REFUSED" TO INCREASE ITS PRODUCTION, AND MARKETING OF QATARI OIL UNAFFECTED BY TWO-TIER PRICE STRUCTURE; (B) NO PLAN FOR OPEC SUMMIT, BUT "I MAY SHORTLY CALL FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE TO RECONCILE VIEWS AND SETTLE OIL PRICES"; LATER IN INTERVIEW ABDUL AZIZ REMARKED THAT THERE HAD BEEN MANY PROPOSALS FLOATED TO RESOLVE OIL PRICE CONTROVERSY, BUT AGREED UPON FORMULA NOT YET CRYSTALLIZED AND IT PREMATURE TO PREDICT ANY FINAL FIGURES; (C) SAUDI PRICE MODERATION MAY HAVE POLITICAL AIM OF ASSISTING ARAB CAUSE AND GIVING U.S. CHANCE TO ACHIEVE PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE.

4. COMMENT: ABDUL AZIZ' "PLEASANT SURPRISE" AND HIS HINTING AT EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERIAL APPEAR TO BE LITTLE MORE THAN ATTEMPTS TO MAINTAIN PRESS INTEREST IN WHAT HE SAYS. ONE CAN NEVER TELL IN THESE PARTS, HOWEVER, SO WE ARE REPORTING HIS COMMENTS FOR WHATEVER THEY'RE WORTH.
PAGANELLI

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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